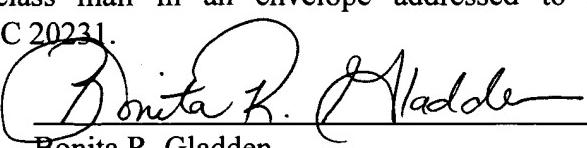


I hereby certify that on the date specified below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

September 25, 2000

Date

Bonita R. Gladden



47709

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Merl F. Hoekstra et al.
 Application No. : 09/385,918
 Filed : August 30, 1999
 For : METHODS FOR MODULATING SIGNAL TRANSDUCTION
 MEDIATED BY TGF- β AND RELATED PROTEINS

Examiner : Janet L. Andres, Ph.D.
 Art Unit : 1642
 Docket No. : 860098.433
 Date : September 25, 2000



Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, DC 20231

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OCT 16 2000

TECH CENTER 1800/2800

PETITION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME

UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)

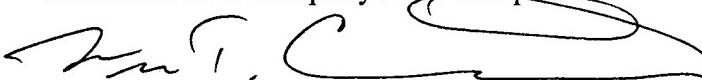
Assistant Commissioner for Patents:

Applicants herewith petition the Assistant Commissioner of Patents under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a three-month extension of time for filing the response to the Examiner's Action dated May 23, 2000, from June 23, 2000 to September 23, 2000 (Saturday). Submitted herewith is a check in the amount of \$435 to cover the cost of the extension.

Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 19-1090. This petition is being submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

Seed Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC



William T. Christiansen, Ph.D.
 Registration No. 44,614

WTC:brg

Enclosures:

Postcard

Check for \$435

Two copies of this Petition

701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 6300

Seattle, Washington 98104-7092

Phone: (206) 622-4900

Fax: (206) 682-6031

wpn/860098/433/Forms/Pet Ext Time